

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).

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Cont
2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The camera according to ~~claim 1~~claim 6, wherein said imaging unit outputs a video signal in sync with a synchronization signal applied thereto; and

said downsampling-ratio control unit reduces the downsampling ratio in sync with the synchronization signal.

4. (Currently Amended) The camera according to ~~claim 1~~claim 6, wherein the camera is provided with a mode setting unit for setting an image-quality priority mode;

said ~~controller~~downsampling-ratio control unit reducing the downsampling ratio when the image-quality priority mode has been set by said mode setting unit.

5. (Canceled).

6. (New) A digital still camera comprising:

an imaging device for imaging a subject and outputting a video signal, which represents an original image of a subject having a number of horizontal lines rather than a number of horizontal lines

of display image which can be displayed on the display screen of the display device;

at least
a downsampling device for downsampling the video signal outputted from said imaging device using a first downsampling-ratio wherein a number of lines of the original image represented by the video signal outputted from said imaging device is smaller than a number of lines of the display image;

a display controller for displaying the image represented by a video signal, which is downsampled by said downsampling device, on the display screen of the display device;

a zoom area designating device for designating a zoom area from the image displayed on the display screen; and

an electronic zoom device for processing an electronic zoom wherein the image included in the zoom area designated by said zoom area designating device is displayed entirely on the display screen of the display device, using a zoom ratio, comprising:

a controller for controlling said downsampling device so as to carry out the downsampling processing using a second downsampling-ratio, which ratio of downsampling is smaller than the first downsampling ratio, when the zoom ratio at said electronic zoom device is higher than a zoom ratio which enlarges the original image to the image after downsampling using the first downsampling ratio.

7. (New) A method for imaging a subject and outputting a video signal, which represents an original image of a subject having a number of horizontal lines rather than a number of horizontal lines of display image which can be displayed on the display screen of the display device;

downsampling the video signal using a first downsampling-ratio wherein a number of lines of the original image represented by the video signal is smaller than a number of lines of the display image;

the image represented by a video signal, which is downsampled;

designating a zoom area from the image displayed on the display screen;

processing an electronic zoom in order than the image included in the designated zoom area is displayed entirely using a zoom ratio; and

downsampling the video signal using a second downsampling-ratio, which ratio of downsampling is smaller than the first downsampling ratio, when the zoom ratio at said electronic zoom device is higher than a zoom ratio which enlarges the original image to the image after downsampling using the first downsampling ratio.

8. (New) The method according to claim 7, further comprising outputting a video signal in sync with a synchronization signal applied thereto; and

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cancel* reducing the downsampling ratio in sync with the synchronization signal.

9. (New) The method according to claim 7, further comprising setting an image-quality priority mode; and

reducing the downsampling ratio when the image-quality priority mode has been set.
